

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates. The cable ownership

cap is a crucial element of our democratic media, and it should not be weakened.

I realize Michael Powell has a closed-minded lack of understanding of why we have anti-monopoly regulations in place, but just because the politically appointed head of the FCC fails to comprehend basic information is no reason to toss out years of progress with the heed one pays to a dead cricket. Our regulations are what has made American media the broad, open and diverse marketplace that it is. Allowing cable companies to forever expand their reach will undoubtedly limit the choices available to Americans, as larger companies are only interested in reaching the mainstream -- i.e., the lowest common denominator. Any programming that doesn't fit the mold will be shut out -- hardly the kind of thing one expects from a country founded on dissent and built from the concept that all ideas have a right to be heard.